PREFACE

Field Office Technical Guide

The Montana Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG) is an essential reference for those individuals concerned with resource conservation in Montana. The FOTG contains specific information dealing with the conservation and management of natural resources.

The FOTG is designed to be used by conservationists who are assisting landowners, land managers, or responsible officials to plan, apply, and maintain resource management systems.

The FOTG contains five sections:

Section I – General Resource References

Section II – Natural Resources Information

Section III – Resource Management Systems and Quality Criteria

Section IV– Practice Standards and Specifications

Section V– Conservation Effects

All the data and references in the FOTG are materials that help the conservationist develop a range of alternative responses to a resource concern and assess the effects of each. The conservationist can develop a good understanding of nature's relationships between resources, between cause and effect, between action and inaction, and most of all between people and their environment.

A system of consecutively numbered Technical Guide Notices will be used to keep the FOTG current. Notices will transmit new materials, supplements, revisions, or correction items (including pen and ink changes). Attachments to the Technical Guide Notices are to be filed according to instructions contained in the Notices.

A Technical Guide Notice Register is filed immediately behind the PREFACE. Record the following information for each Notice:

- 1. Notice number and date.
- 2. Section(s) affected by the change.
- 3. Brief description of action(s) required.
- **4.** Page number(s) of affected material.
- **5.** Date(s) of affected material.

The Technical Guide Notices may be destroyed when the instructions and required actions are completed.

USDA-NRCS-Montana January 2003